

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A device for recording pictures of a plurality of parcels continuously conveying past the device in a conveying direction is provided. The parcels have varying heights and a surface containing distribution information. A camera, aligned perpendicular to the parcel surface to be recorded, has a CCD sensor and a camera lens with a zoom lens. A sensor, upstream of the camera, measures the height of each parcel to be recorded. A control device for generates adjustment signals for the camera in dependence on the measured parcel height. The camera also includes a fast zoom adjustment lens actuated by the control device to maintain a consistent picture scale independent of variances in measured height distances. At least two lighting devices are arranged to beam light onto the parcel surface at an angle to ensure that the parcel surface to be recorded is illuminated uniformly and without shadows.

::ODMA\PCDOCS\DC2DOCS1\296754\1